

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

Courtenay Walter Bennett, who has been British consul general at Bilbao since 1900, has been gazetted consul general of Great Britain at San Francisco.

It has been proposed in Washington to invite ex-President Cleveland to address congress on the occasion of the memorial services for President McKinley.

The appeal of Joseph Rinkard, who murdered his wife, for a new trial has been refused by the Indiana supreme court. He has been given, the death sentence.

Immigration Agent E. R. Werkman of the Great Northern expects that the spring movement of settlers to the Pacific northwest will be the heaviest ever known.

Mme. Nordica's claim of \$3,000,000 against the United States government for the losses at sea of her ancestor, Ichabod Norton, appears to have been filed about ten years too late.

The Georgia legislature passes the act granting certain lands lying in the northeast part of the state to the National Appalachian park, which is to be named after President McKinley.

The marriage of Miss Helen Hay, daughter of the secretary of state, and Mr. Payne Whitney of New York, will occur Thursday, February 6, at the Church of the Covenant in Washington.

Secretary Long acknowledged in an informal letter the receipt of a request from Admiral Schley for permission to file a bill of objections to the recent decision of the court of inquiry.

Senator Daniel of Virginia lives in very modest style in Washington, and has for thirty years spent nearly all of his money in paying off debts incurred by a relative in the panic of 1873.

Cecil Rhodes, in a long letter to the Daily Telegraph, advocates the settlement of large number of suitable British subjects on land among the Boers as the only safe means of eradicating race hatred in South Africa.

The Amsterdam correspondent of the London Daily Express says that Queen Wilhelmina and Prince Henry of the Netherlands, her husband, drove in an open carriage through Appleton yesterday. The correspondent adds the royal pair will return to The Hague tomorrow.

The most recent investigation into German labor conditions show the labor situation to be growing worse. The Arbeits Markt, a Berlin newspaper, says there were 224 applicants for 100 vacancies in November, against 200 applicants for the same number of vacancies in October.

A rumor is current that Count Goluchowski, the Austro-Hungarian minister of foreign affairs, is about to resign, owing to the refusal of the Emperor Kaiser Josef to sanction his arbitrary proposal to satisfy German complaints arising from the anti-German demonstrations in Galicia.

Alexander Kirk, while delirious from small pox, escaped from his home in Amherst, Wis., and wandered about in the snow storm. His wife, who is just recovering from the same disease, followed him for about a mile, but the cold compelled her to turn back. Kirk's frozen body was found three miles from his home.

The Boer ballad is popular in Paris. Publishers in this country has filed hurry-up orders.

William H. Walker, once employed as a painter on the Pan-American buildings at Buffalo, was found frozen to death near Lyons, N. Y.

Third Clerk Mark Amerberg, of the steamer Spread Eagle, one of the Leyhe fleet of St. Louis, in winter quarters at Paducah, Ky., was drowned yesterday by breaking through the ice. The remains were shipped to his home at Grafton, Ill.

An Italian psychologist has discovered that Christopher Columbus was insane for years before his death.

Seth Low took the oath of office as mayor of New York in the supreme court of New York. Mr. Low will assume office at noon on January 1.

Finance Minister Limantour of Mexico has sent his budget for the next fiscal year to congress. He says that the depression which existed at this time last year is disappearing, except in regard to the cotton manufacturing industry.

The Bulgarian minister has resigned, owing to the hostility of the so-called to the proposal for a new loan.

Lady Barnett recently presented to Queen Alexandra a Pomeranian dog, which weighs only a pound and a half and is valued at \$5,000.

John Murphy, superintendent of the St. Louis branch of Swift & Co., died suddenly at the home of his wife's parents at Muncie, Ind. Murphy had gone there with his family for the holidays. He was apparently in good health in the morning.

WIPED OFF THE SLATE

Secretary Long Writes that the Schley Case is at an End.

APPROVES THE COURT'S FINDINGS

A Rehearing is Denied the Admiral. Therefore the Matters Rests—The Appeal of Attorneys for Sampson Likewise Ruled Out.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Secretary Long has disposed finally of the Schley case so far as the navy department is concerned by acting upon the findings and conclusions of the court of inquiry.

He approves the findings of facts and the opinion of the full court; he approves the majority opinion where there is a difference in the court; he holds that the court could not have entered in to the question of command at the battle of Santiago, and finally he accepts the recommendation that no further proceedings shall be had.

The secretary also has declined the application of Admiral Sampson's counsel to enter upon an inquiry into the question of command and has notified Admiral Schley's counsel of that fact as a reason for declining to hear them on that point.

Secretary Long's approval of the majority report was as follows:

"WASHINGTON, Dec. 21, 1901.—The department has read the testimony in the case, the arguments of counsel at the trial, the court's findings of fact, opinion and recommendation, the individual memorandum of the presiding member, the statement of exceptions to the said findings and the opinion by the applicant, the reply to said statement by the judge advocate of the court and his assistant and the briefs this day submitted by counsel for Rear Admiral Sampson traversing presiding member's view as to who was in command at the battle of Santiago.

"And after careful consideration the findings of fact and the opinion of the full court are approved. As to the points on which the presiding member differs from the majority of the court, the opinion of the majority is approved.

"As to the further expression of his views by the same member with regard to the questions of command on the morning of July 3, 1898, and of the title to credit for the ensuing victory, the conduct of the court in making no finding and rendering no opinion on those questions is approved—indeed it could with propriety take no other course, evidence on these questions during the inquiry having been excluded by the court.

"The department records its recommendation of the court that no further proceedings be had in the premises.

"The department records its appreciation of the arduous labors of the whole court.

JOHN D. LONG, Secretary of the Navy."

The text of the secretary's letter to Admiral Sampson's attorneys is as follows:

"Navy Department, Washington, D. C., Dec. 20, 1901.—Gentlemen: In view of the department's approval, this day, of the recommendation of the court of inquiry, in the case of Rear Admiral Schley, that no further proceedings be had, and of the fact that the question of command was excluded from consideration by the court, the department will take no action upon the brief filed by you in behalf of Rear Admiral William T. Sampson. Very respectfully,

"JOHN D. LONG, Secretary. Messrs. Staton, Campbell and Thiel, New York."

DIFFICULT TO MAKE TERMS.

Federal Authorities Are Still Negotiating With Kidnappers.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 23.—W. W. Peet, treasurer of the Turkish mission in Constantinople, and M. Gargullo, dragoman of the United States legation here, are still at Salonica, endeavoring to open negotiations with the brigands who hold captive Miss Ellen M. Stone and to fix a rendezvous with them.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—According to a Sofia dispatch to the Express an arrangement has been made with the brigands holding Miss Stone captive and the American legation at Constantinople, under the terms of which the brigands are to accept \$70,000 for the release of Miss Stone. It is said the ransom is to be paid on Bulgarian soil and that Miss Stone is to be liberated in Turkish territory.

CHOSEN AGROSTOLOGIST.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23.—W. J. Spillman of Pullman, Wash., has been selected to succeed Prof. F. Latson Scribner as the agrostologist of the department of agriculture.

PROTECTORATE OVER TRIPOLI.

VIENNA, Dec. 23.—The Allgemeine Zeitung asserts that France and Italy have concluded a formal treaty which enables Italy to declare a formal protectorate over Tripoli.

SOD HOUSE PAYS BIG MONEY

Mrs. Bowser Tells of Her Big Triumph at Buffalo Exposition.

OMAHA, Dec. 23.—Mrs. L. Bowser of sod house fame, the Nebraska woman who made such a success of selling Nebraska cooking in a Nebraska prairie home at the Pan-American exposition, is back to her native heath. In an interview with the Bee she said:

"This fall I had an opportunity to find out how valuable sod houses and the 160 acres of Nebraska land that surround them are. When my husband and I first settled in Nebraska with our two children we took a claim near Newport, in Rock county, and erected a little sod home. It was a comfortable home, too, and some of the happiest days of my life were spent there. We planted and improved the place, but were not contented and sold the little claim for \$300. My son has always wanted to own the place. This fall he tried to buy and the price is now \$6,000. That shows the increase there has been in the value of Nebraska land during the last twelve years, for it was just a dozen years ago that we left the little sod house."

"I have been at a loss frequently to explain why eastern people are so much interested in sod houses. I know why I have such a love for a home of Nebraska turf, but the hundreds of thousands of people who visited the Buffalo exposition seemed to be interested in my little house, tucked away in a space so small that it could hardly be seen. The size of my entire space was thirty-seven feet by seventy-five feet and the building covered almost every inch of it. It was all the room I could get.

"In that little house thirty-seven Nebraska men and women were employed during the entire summer and at times my employees numbered as high as eighty-six. Some idea of the great amount of Nebraska creamed chicken we sold can be gained from the fact that I paid nearly \$20,000 for the chickens we used. Some days we used forty dozens of chickens. Coffee was bought by us at the rate of 1,000 pounds a week. It was nothing uncommon to use 150 pounds of coffee per day. Two Omaha men were kept busy making coffee all the time during the exposition and sometimes there were as many as fourteen people drawing and serving coffee.

"There was nothing to be had in my house but the plain cooking that might be found in any Nebraska home. Creamed chicken, ginger bread, baked beans, brown bread and coffee were all that we served. At times the crowds were so dense in our little sod house that it seemed as though people must be trampled under foot. When I went to Buffalo I told Mr. Buchanan that it was my ambition to serve the best coffee on the grounds and to run my receipts up to \$1,000 a day. I accomplished both and have only pleasant recollections of the Pan-American."

A REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATION

Letters Sent Out Suggesting Such an Organization.

LINCOLN, Dec. 23.—Deputy Labor Commissioner C. E. Watson has sent out letters suggesting the organization of a state association by real estate dealers. From many responses received it is apparent that the dealers in the state are ready to take up such an enterprise, the object in view being to encourage immigration to Nebraska. It is believed that a majority would prefer not to admit real estate dealers in the cities of Lincoln or Omaha, as such dealers are supposed to be interested more particularly in city property. Farm property is represented more generally by agents living outside the large cities.

The towns of York, Hastings, Grand Island and Columbus all have been mentioned as the probable place of the first meeting. If a meeting is called it will be held early in the new year. The object is to organize a state association, to promote immigration, discuss papers dealing with land values, acreage and the yield of crops and kindred topics.

A dealer in York county writes that he has secured good results by advertising Nebraska in reputable newspapers and farm journals in Iowa and Illinois.

Several farmers from Aledo, Ill., have already bought land in York county and it is reported that a party of fifty farmers from the same place will buy tickets for York county on March 1. He says the Illinois farmers who have been in Nebraska now realize that they can secure as much profit from Nebraska land as they can from Illinois land valued at \$90 and \$100 an acre.

COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

LINCOLN, Dec. 23.—Superintendent Fowler has issued a call for a business meeting of county superintendents and superintendents-elect, to be held in the senate chamber beginning Tuesday afternoon, December 31. Mr. Fowler says: "We hope to have a very interesting and profitable meeting. Superintendents now in office should meet with us and give us the benefit of their experience, whether they remain in office or go out."

BONNESS MUST GO BACK

Governor Grants Requisition, but Chicagoan Still Battles.

OMAHA, Dec. 21.—Governor Savage granted the requisition of the governor of Illinois for the return to that state of Frederic Bonness, who was arrested in Omaha December 10, and was later released on bond.

Bonness is charged with deserting in Chicago his wife and four small children. Policeman Joseph T. Barry left the Windy City immediately upon his arrest, bringing with him the necessary papers. Bonness, through his attorneys, claims that he is not married to the woman. The officer who is after him says that the woman is the legal wife of the man and that when Bonness left Chicago he had in his possession \$1,400, leaving his wife penniless with a child but three weeks old and the three other children too small to care for themselves.

The fight made before the governor by Bonness' attorneys lasted for some time, and upon its conclusion the papers were signed for his return.

Immediately upon the receipt of the information in Omaha Bonness was re-arrested and his lawyers began habeas corpus proceedings and the argument will be heard before Judge Baker. Bonness is a meat cutter by trade and was employed while in Omaha by the Omaha Tea company.

ADULTERATION MUST STOP

State Proposes to Enforce Pure Cider Vinegar Act.

LINCOLN, Dec. 21.—Deputy Food Commissioner S. C. Bassett is preparing to prosecute manufacturers and dealers who sell vinegar that does not come up to the test required by the law or sold under a false name. The department has already analyzed many samples of alleged cider vinegar and found it to be a base imitation. A distilled product, colored to resemble apple cider vinegar, is the most common of the adulterated article on the market. One of the surprises is that the state has bought "cider vinegar" for 3 cents a gallon, and upon investigation it proved to be below the test required by law and bore no evidence of having been in the vicinity of an apple. Vinegar of this character has been shipped into Nebraska for 3 cents a gallon and retailed for from 25 to forty cents a gallon as pure cider vinegar. One sample taken from a Lincoln store contained salicylic acid. This acid is used as preservative and according to law its use is made an offense punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.

OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS

Teachers Attending Association Meeting Will Get Low Rates.

LINCOLN, Dec. 21.—For the information of teachers and others who wish to attend the forthcoming meeting of the Nebraska State Teachers' association, Superintendent Fowler publishes the following rate bulletin, which was received from the Western Passenger association:

"Rate of one fare for the round trip from points in Nebraska and the Black Hills district of South Dakota; excursion tickets to be sold from points in the territory mentioned from which the local one way rate to Lincoln is more than \$3 on December 30, 31 and January 1, and from points within the radius mentioned on December 31 and January 1, good to return until and including January 4, 1902. Tickets limited for going passage commencing date of sale and for continuous passage in each direction."

SHORTAGE MADE GOOD.

LINCOLN, Dec. 21.—The shortage of former Oil Inspector J. N. Gaffin was made good by the payment of \$522.03 to the state by the Fidelity and Deposit company of Baltimore. The settlement was brought about by the state board of compromise, of which the attorney general, state treasurer and state auditor are the members. A check for the amount was given to the auditor.

LIVE STOCK STANDS IT.

HARRISON, Neb., Dec. 21.—A blizzard set in Sunday evening and continued until Monday evening, piling up a foot of snow on the level and great heaps in railroad cuts and over the range. Cattle are in good condition, and it is thought will be able to tide over all right.

MRS. NATION AT BEATRICE.

BEATRICE, Neb., Dec. 21.—Mrs. Carrie Nation lectured here, but her audience was quite small owing to the inclemency of the weather.

MISSOURI AGAINST NEBRASKA.

LINCOLN, Dec. 21.—Attorney General Prout has returned from Washington, where he appeared before the supreme court and asked that commissioners be appointed to take evidence in the suit of Missouri against Nebraska. The controversy arises over several acres of land cut off from Nebraska by a sudden freak of the Missouri river. The land and citizens are still considered Nebraska's, taxes being paid in Nebraska county.

FOR EPIQUES TO READ.

Add to Your Knowledge of the Tempting Oyster.

This being the oyster season all information concerning that sea animal known to the illiterate as the "luscious bivalve" is in order. We know that oysters sometimes give people typhoid fever, taste strongly of oil if scooped up in the Staten Island Kills, are whitened and fattened for the New York market by being kept in fresh water and fed on corn meal; that their flavor is spoiled by the process and, in short, a lot of things about them which were, perhaps, just as well that we did not know. At present a discussion is going on as to how long an oyster lives—provided he is let live. Prof. Mobius, a German authority on the subject, says that the Schleswig oysters which they eat in North Germany are from seven to ten years old when they come into the market, and he has seen some which were between twenty-five and thirty years old, though he acknowledges that oysters even twenty-five years old are rare. Bertram in his "Harvest of the Sea" says that an oyster is in its prime when it is five years old. Prof. S. P. Woodward asserts that an oyster on artificial ground does not arrive at maturity until it is between five and seven years old, but those grown in natural beds mature at the age of four. It is believed that an oyster, left to its natural chances, would be likely to arrive at an extreme old age. Fossil oyster shells have been found which were nine inches thick, from which it is computed that the oyster must have been more than a hundred years old at the time of its death. The age of an oyster is determined by the outside of its shell, the successive layers or plates overlapping each other, marking a year's growth each. Up to the time of the oyster's maturity these "shoots," as they technically are called, are regular, but after that period they become irregular and are piled one over the other so that the shell becomes more thickened and bulky and the age marks more confused.—New York Press.

SCENT THAT CLINGS.

Smoke of Cigars Worries the Bachelor Girl Quite a Lot.

"Talk about a grain of musk scenting a room for twenty-five years," said the bachelor girl; "that's nothing to the way a whiff of tobacco smoke will make its presence known for ages without apparently diminishing in strength. My brother calls on me sometimes in the afternoons and when he does he is, of course, accompanied by the inevitable cigar. He smokes during the interview, and I talk—a very acceptable division of labor to both of us—and then he goes away and I air my sitting room thoroughly, as I suppose. That night, if perchance I have a visitor, 'Dear me,' he says, or whatever is the masculine equivalent for that expression, 'dear me, find the man! I smell tobacco smoke, so there must be one about here somewhere.' When I mention my brother he looks first incredulous and then suspicious. I've caught more than one of my callers furtively looking at my fingers to see if they showed any trace of nicotine, I suppose, and once or twice my opinion as to the relative merits of the different brands of cigarettes has been asked suddenly when I was off my guard, apparently to see whether I would commit myself. Evidently my kind friends suspect me of doing the smoking myself. There's plenty of it done among women, and what are known as 'nice' women, too; but it's a habit that I abhor. I never had a cigarette in my mouth, and still when someone notices the fragrance of tobacco about my rooms or my clothes, for both are impregnated, they seem convinced that I am a 'fend.' Last week when I took my winter hangings out of the cedar closet I could smell last winter's tobacco smoke still lingering in their folds. I can't get it out. Air is of no avail. This winter my brother is going to be denied his cigars," said the bachelor girl. "I can't get the reputation of being a cigarette fiend just to make him comfortable, now can I? I hate to sacrifice him, but no doubt for the good of the family he'll be willing even to give up his perfect."—Baltimore News.

PRAIRIE DOGS FLOURISHING.

There is one North American animal that does not share the fate of becoming extinct which appears to threaten all the other beasts on this hemisphere. The exception is the prairie dog. Man has been so busy and successful in exterminating this little ground squirrel's natural enemies—the coyotes, badgers, ferrets, hawks, owls and eagles—that the prairie dog has multiplied marvelously and on certain vast grazing lands its mounds are so many and its consumption and ruin of herbage are so great that only half as many cattle can be pastured on them as formerly, when the beasts were kept down by other animals that fed on them.

The federal government and the state governments of Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Texas are spending lots of money now to find some means for exterminating the pest.

RICH MAN'S IDEAS OF REVENGE.

J. M. Longyear of Marquette, Mich., who built himself a palatial home at a cost of \$500,000 in that city, has become so embittered against the city for allowing a railroad to run so near his property that he will move the house, stone by stone, to Boston, which project will almost reach the original cost of the structure.—Chicago Chronicle.



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